# **OPEN MEETING**



# MEMORANDUM

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TO:

THE COMMISSION

2014 FEB 26 P 3: 42

FROM:

**Utilities Division** 

**ORIGINAL** 

L CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

DATE:

February 26, 2014

RE:

TUCSON ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY - APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF REVISED RIDER R-3 MARKET COST OF COMPARABLE CONVENTIONAL

GENERATION (DOCKET NO. E-01933A-14-0032)

#### **Background**

On February 3, 2014, Tucson Electric Power Company ("TEP" or "Company") filed an application for approval of its revised Rider R-3 Market Cost of Comparable Conventional Generation ("MCCCG") which is used in conjunction with Rider R-4, Net Metering for Certain Partial Requirements Service ("NM-PRS"). TEP's Rider R-3 specifies the methodology for calculating the rate to be paid for purchases of excess energy from Net Metering Facilities. The rate is listed on the TEP Statement of Charges. The last revision of the Rider R-3 rate was approved by the Commission's Decision No. 73771 (March 21, 2013).

For Net Metering customers, each calendar year, for customer bills produced in October (September usage) or for a customer's "final" bill, the Company credits the customer for any balance of excess kWhs remaining. The payment for the purchase of these excess kWhs is at the Company's applicable avoided cost. TEP has defined its avoided cost as the average hourly market cost of comparable conventional generation as specified on its Rider R-3 applicable to NM-PRS. Rider R-3 indicates that the MCCCG will be filed annually (by February 1) by TEP for approval by the Commission.

### **Proposed Tariff**

TEP's proposed revision to the Rider R-3 rate reflects a higher MCCCG and therefore increases the avoided cost rate from 2.524¢ per kWh to 2.666¢ per kWh for purchases of excess energy from Net Metering Facilities.

Staff has reviewed TEP's hourly marginal costs that resulted in the 2.666¢ rate and finds the data and calculations to be reasonable.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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## Recommendations

Staff recommends that TEP's revised Rider R-3 MCCCG as applicable to Rider R-4 NM-PRS be approved.

Staff further recommends that the avoided cost rate of 2.666¢ per kWh should be effective as of April 1, 2014.

Staff further recommends that TEP file a Statement of Charges consistent with the Decision in this case within 15 days of the effective date of the Decision.

Steven M. Olea

Director

**Utilities Division** 

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ORIGINATOR: Jeffrey Pasquinelli

#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1 2 **BOB STUMP** Chairman 3 **GARY PIERCE** Commissioner **BRENDA BURNS** 4 Commissioner 5 **BOB BURNS** Commissioner SUSAN BITTER SMITH 6 Commissioner 7 8 IN THE MATTER OF TUCSON ELECTRIC DOCKET NO. E-01933A-14-0032 POWER COMPANY'S APPLICATION FOR DECISION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ 9 APPROVAL OF REVISED RIDER R-3 MARKET COST OF COMPARABLE **ORDER** 10 CONVENTIONAL GENERATION. 11 12 13 14 Open Meeting March 11 and 12, 2014 Phoenix, Arizona 15 BY THE COMMISSION: 16 FINDINGS OF FACT 17 18 1. Tucson Electric Power Company, Inc. ("TEP" or "Company") is certificated to 19 provide electric service as a public service corporation in the State of Arizona. 20 Background 2. On February 3, 2014, TEP filed an application for approval of its revised Rider R-3 21 22 Market Cost of Comparable Conventional Generation ("MCCCG") which is used in conjunction with Rider R-4, Net Metering for Certain Partial Requirements Service ("NM-PRS"). TEP's Rider 23 R-3 specifies the methodology for calculating the rate to be paid for purchases of excess energy 24 25 from Net Metering Facilities. The rate is listed on the TEP Statement of Charges. The last 26 revision of the Rider R-3 rate was approved by the Commission's Decision No. 73771 (March 21, 27 2013).

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3. For Net Metering customers, each calendar year, for customer bills produced in October (September usage) or for a customer's "final" bill, the Company credits the customer for any balance of excess kWhs remaining. The payment for the purchase of these excess kWhs is at the Company's applicable avoided cost. TEP has defined its avoided cost as the average hourly market cost of comparable conventional generation as specified on its Rider R-3 applicable to NM-PRS. Rider R-3 indicates that the MCCCG will be filed annually (by February 1) by TEP for approval by the Commission.

# **Proposed Tariff**

- 4. TEP's proposed revision to the Rider R-3 rate reflects a higher MCCCG and therefore increases the avoided cost rate from 2.524¢ per kWh to 2.666¢ per kWh for purchases of excess energy from Net Metering Facilities.
- 5. Staff has reviewed TEP's hourly marginal costs that resulted in the 2.666¢ rate and finds the data and calculations to be reasonable.

#### Recommendations

- 6. Staff has recommended that TEP's revised Rider R-3 MCCCG as applicable to Rider R-4 NM-PRS be approved.
- 7. Staff has further recommended that the avoided cost rate of 2.666¢ per kWh should be effective as of April 1, 2014.
- 8. Staff has further recommended that TEP file a Statement of Charges consistent with the Decision in this case within 15 days of the effective date of the Decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. TEP is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over TEP and over the subject matter of the application.
- 3. Approval of the revised Rider R-3 MCCCG does not constitute a rate increase as contemplated by A.R.S. Section 40-250.

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